

What is claimed is:

1. An uninstall device, comprising:

installing means for executing an installation process
for recording, in a device registration area managed by an
operating system, function-specific device specification
5 data, which is data to enable an operating system to
identify a function of a device, in association with device
driver specification data, which is data for specifying a
device driver as a program for controlling the device to
10 execute the function;

additional installing means for performing an
additional installation process for recording at least one
of the function-specific device specification data and the
device driver specification data in an additional
15 registration area in association with device specification
data, which is data indicating the device;

uninstall request receiving means for performing a
process to receive an uninstall request from a user
targeting the device; and

20 uninstalling means for performing, when an uninstall
request for the device is received from the user by the
uninstall request receiving means, an uninstallation process
for removing, from the device registration area, the device
driver specification data that is associated with the
25 function-specific device specification data for the device

targeted for uninstallation, by using the at least one of the function-specific device specification data and the device driver specification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data indicating the device targeted for
5 uninstallation.

2. An uninstall device according to Claim 1,

wherein the installing means executes the installation process for recording, in the device registration area, the
10 function-specific device specification data further in association with input/output interface specification data, which is data for specifying an input/output interface used for performing communications to control the device; the installing means enabling the operating system to find the
15 function-specific device specification data recorded in the device registration area and to execute the function possessed by the device by controlling the device with the device driver specified by the device driver specification data that is associated with the function-specific device
20 specification data via the input/output interface that is specified by the input/output interface specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data;

wherein the uninstalling means performs the
25 uninstallation process by further removing, from the device

registration area, the input/output interface specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data for the device, thereby preventing the operating system from controlling the device to execute the function;

5 wherein the uninstalling means executes the uninstallation process based on the function-specific device specification data by removing entries of the input/output interface specification data and the device driver specification data, which are stored in the device registration area in association with the function-specific device specification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data for the device targeted for
10 uninstallation; and
15

 wherein the uninstalling means executes the uninstallation process based on the device driver specification data by removing entries of the device driver specification data and the input/output interface specification data that are stored in the device registration area in association with the device driver specification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data for the device targeted for
20 uninstallation.
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3. An uninstall device according to Claim 1, further comprising installation procedure storing means for storing installation procedure data including an indication of whether the device driver is to be installed for the function possessed by the device;

5 wherein the installing means determines whether a device driver is to be installed for enabling the operating system to control the device to execute the function, and installs the device driver when necessary according to the installation procedure stored in the installation procedure storing means.

4. An uninstall device according to Claim 1, wherein the device includes a plurality of devices, wherein the uninstall request receiving means receives an uninstall request from the user by prompting the user to select at least one device as the target for uninstallation; and

15 wherein the uninstalling means performs the uninstallation process for the device selected by the user as the target of uninstallation.

20 5. An uninstall device according to Claim 4, wherein when the user selects two or more devices as the target of uninstallation, the uninstalling means performs the uninstallation process for all the user's selected two or more devices.

6. An uninstall device according to Claim 4, further comprising a display,

wherein the additional installing means performs another additional installation process to record device identification data, which is data enabling the user to identify each device, in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data for the each device; and

wherein the uninstall request receiving means performs a process to control the display to show the device identification data stored in the additional registration area and to prompt the user to select at least one device as the target of uninstallation based on the displayed device identification data.

7. An uninstall device according to Claim 6, wherein the device identification data for each device includes the input/output interface specification data for the device.

8. An uninstall device according to Claim 7, wherein the uninstall request receiving means reads the function-specific device specification data that corresponds to the selected device from the additional registration area and controls the display to show the device driver specification data.

9. An uninstall device according to Claim 4, further comprising a display,

wherein the additional installing means performs another additional installation process to record device identification data, which is data enabling the user to identify each device, and model specification data, which is data specifying the model of the each device, in the additional registration area in association with each other; and

the uninstall request receiving means performs a process to control the display to show the model specification data stored in the additional registration area and to prompt the user to select model specification data as the target of uninstallation, and sets, as a device targeted for uninstallation, all the device that is identified by device identification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the model specification data selected by the user as the target for installation.

10. An uninstall device according to Claim 9, wherein the uninstall request receiving means controls the display to show, in association with the model specification data, the device identification data that are stored in the additional registration area in association with the model specification data.

11. An uninstall device according to Claim 1, wherein the functions of the device include at least one of a

printer function, an image scanner function, and a fax communication function.

12. An uninstall device according to Claim 1, wherein the device is a multifunction device having two or more different functions.

13. An uninstall device, comprising:

an operating system;

a memory;

an installing portion that executes an installation process for recording, in a device registration area managed by the operating system, function-specific device specification data, which is data to enable an operating system to identify a function of a device, in association with device driver specification data, which is data for specifying a device driver as a program for controlling the device to execute the function;

an additional installing portion that performs an additional installation process for recording at least one of the function-specific device specification data and the device driver specification data in an additional registration area in association with device specification data, which is data indicating the device;

an uninstall request receiving portion that performs a process to receive an uninstall request from a user targeting the device; and

an uninstalling portion that performs, when an
uninstall request for the device is received from the user
by the uninstall request receiving portion, an
uninstallation process for removing, from the device
5 registration area, the device driver specification data that
is associated with the function-specific device
specification data for the device targeted for
uninstallation, by using the at least one of the function-
specific device specification data and the device driver
10 specification data that is stored in the additional
registration area in association with the device
specification data indicating the device targeted for
uninstallation.

14. An uninstall device according to Claim 13,
15 wherein the installing portion executes the
installation process for recording, in the device
registration area, the function-specific device
specification data further in association with input/output
interface specification data, which is data for specifying
20 an input/output interface used for performing communications
to control the device; the installing portion enabling the
operating system to find the function-specific device
specification data recorded in the device registration area
and to execute the function possessed by the device by
25 controlling the device with the device driver specified by

the device driver specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data via the input/output interface that is specified by the input/output interface specification data that is associated with the
5 function-specific device specification data;

wherein the uninstalling portion performs the uninstallation process by further removing, from the device registration area, the input/output interface specification data that is associated with the function-specific device
10 specification data for the device, thereby preventing the operating system from controlling the device to execute the function;

wherein the uninstalling portion executes the uninstallation process based on the function-specific device
15 specification data by removing entries of the input/output interface specification data and the device driver specification data, which are stored in the device registration area in association with the function-specific device specification data that is stored in the additional
20 registration area in association with the device specification data for the device targeted for uninstallation; and

wherein the uninstalling portion executes the uninstallation process based on the device driver
25 specification data by removing entries of the device driver

specification data and the input/output interface
specification data that are stored in the device
registration area in association with the device driver
specification data that is stored in the additional
5 registration area in association with the device
specification data for the device targeted for
uninstallation.

15. An uninstall method, comprising:

executing an installation process for recording, in a
10 device registration area managed by an operating system,
function-specific device specification data, which is data
to enable an operating system to identify a function of a
device, in association with device driver specification data,
which is data for specifying a device driver as a program
15 for controlling the device to execute the function;

performing an additional installation process for
recording at least one of the function-specific device
specification data and the device driver specification data
in an additional registration area in association with
20 device specification data, which is data indicating the
device;

performing a process to receive an uninstall request
from a user targeting the device; and

performing, when an uninstall request for the device
25 is received from the user, an uninstallation process for

removing, from the device registration area, the device driver specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data for the device targeted for uninstallation, by using the at least one of
5 the function-specific device specification data and the device driver specification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data indicating the device targeted for uninstallation.

10 16. An uninstall method according to Claim 15,
wherein the installing step executes the installation process for recording, in the device registration area, the function-specific device specification data further in association with input/output interface specification data,
15 which is data for specifying an input/output interface used for performing communications to control the device; the installing step enabling the operating system to find the function-specific device specification data recorded in the device registration area and to execute the function
20 possessed by the device by controlling the device with the device driver specified by the device driver specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data via the input/output interface that is specified by the input/output interface specification data
25 that is associated with the function-specific device

specification data;

wherein the uninstalling step performs the
uninstallation process by further removing, from the device
registration area, the input/output interface specification
5 data that is associated with the function-specific device
specification data for the device, thereby preventing the
operating system from controlling the device to execute the
function;

wherein the uninstalling step executes the
10 uninstallation process based on the function-specific device
specification data by removing entries of the input/output
interface specification data and the device driver
specification data, which are stored in the device
registration area in association with the function-specific
15 device specification data that is stored in the additional
registration area in association with the device
specification data for the device targeted for
uninstallation; and

wherein the uninstalling step executes the
20 uninstallation process based on the device driver
specification data by removing entries of the device driver
specification data and the input/output interface
specification data that are stored in the device
registration area in association with the device driver
25 specification data that is stored in the additional

registration area in association with the device specification data for the device targeted for uninstallation.

17. An uninstall program, comprising the programs of:
5 executing an installation process for recording, in a device registration area managed by an operating system, function-specific device specification data, which is data to enable an operating system to identify a function of a device, in association with device driver specification data,
10 which is data for specifying a device driver as a program for controlling the device to execute the function;

 performing an additional installation process for recording at least one of the function-specific device specification data and the device driver specification data
15 in an additional registration area in association with device specification data, which is data indicating the device;

 performing a process to receive an uninstall request from a user targeting the device; and

20 performing, when an uninstall request for the device is received from the user, an uninstallation process for removing, from the device registration area, the device driver specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data for the device
25 targeted for uninstallation, by using the at least one of

the function-specific device specification data and the device driver specification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data indicating the device targeted for
5 uninstallation.

18. An uninstall program according to Claim 17,
wherein the installing program executes the installation process for recording, in the device registration area, the function-specific device
10 specification data further in association with input/output interface specification data, which is data for specifying an input/output interface used for performing communications to control the device; the installing program enabling the operating system to find the function-specific device
15 specification data recorded in the device registration area and to execute the function possessed by the device by controlling the device with the device driver specified by the device driver specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data via the
20 input/output interface that is specified by the input/output interface specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data;
wherein the uninstalling program performs the uninstallation process by further removing, from the device
25 registration area, the input/output interface specification

data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data for the device, thereby preventing the operating system from controlling the device to execute the function;

5 wherein the uninstalling program executes the uninstallation process based on the function-specific device specification data by removing entries of the input/output interface specification data and the device driver specification data, which are stored in the device
10 registration area in association with the function-specific device specification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data for the device targeted for
uninstallation; and

15 wherein the uninstalling program executes the uninstallation process based on the device driver specification data by removing entries of the device driver specification data and the input/output interface
specification data that are stored in the device
20 registration area in association with the device driver specification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data for the device targeted for
uninstallation.

25 19. An uninstall system, comprising:

installing means for registering, in a device registration area managed by an operating system, data of a group of device drivers for a device, the group of device drivers including a plurality of device drivers to be used
5 by the operating system to control the device to perform a plurality of functions;

uninstall request receiving means for receiving a user's instruction to uninstall the group of device drivers for the device; and

10 uninstalling means for canceling, upon receipt of the instruction, registration of the group of device drivers from the device registration area.

20. An uninstall system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the installing means records relationship between
15 the group of device drivers and the device in an additional storage area, and wherein the uninstalling means cancels the plurality of device drivers in the group of device drivers by referring to the relationship between the group of device drivers and the device.

20 21. An uninstall system, comprising:

a memory; and

a controller that registers, in a device registration area that is prepared in the memory and that is managed by
an operating system, data of a group of device drivers for a
25 device, the group of device drivers including a plurality of

device drivers to be used by the operating system to control the device to perform a plurality of functions, that receives a user's instruction to uninstall the group of device drivers for the device, and that cancels, upon
5 receipt of the instruction, registration of the group of device drivers from the device registration area.

22. An uninstall system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the controller records relationship between the group of device drivers and the device in an additional
10 storage area prepared in the memory, and wherein the controller cancels the plurality of device drivers in the group of device drivers by referring to the relationship between the group of device drivers and the device.

23. A storage medium storing an uninstall program
15 readable by a computer, the uninstall program comprising the programs of:

executing an installation process for recording, in a device registration area managed by an operating system, function-specific device specification data, which is data
20 to enable an operating system to identify a function of a device, in association with device driver specification data, which is data for specifying a device driver as a program for controlling the device to execute the function;

performing an additional installation process for
25 recording at least one of the function-specific device

specification data and the device driver specification data in an additional registration area in association with device specification data, which is data indicating the device;

5 performing a process to receive an uninstall request from a user targeting the device; and

performing, when an uninstall request for the device is received from the user, an uninstallation process for removing, from the device registration area, the device
10 driver specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data for the device targeted for uninstallation, by using the at least one of the function-specific device specification data and the device driver specification data that is stored in the
15 additional registration area in association with the device specification data indicating the device targeted for uninstallation.

24. A storage medium according to Claim 23,
wherein the installing program executes the
20 installation process for recording, in the device registration area, the function-specific device specification data further in association with input/output interface specification data, which is data for specifying an input/output interface used for performing communications
25 to control the device; the installing program enabling the

operating system to find the function-specific device specification data recorded in the device registration area and to execute the function possessed by the device by controlling the device with the device driver specified by the device driver specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data via the input/output interface that is specified by the input/output interface specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data;

wherein the uninstalling program performs the uninstallation process by further removing, from the device registration area, the input/output interface specification data that is associated with the function-specific device specification data for the device, thereby preventing the operating system from controlling the device to execute the function;

wherein the uninstalling program executes the uninstallation process based on the function-specific device specification data by removing entries of the input/output interface specification data and the device driver specification data, which are stored in the device registration area in association with the function-specific device specification data that is stored in the additional registration area in association with the device specification data for the device targeted for

uninstallation; and

wherein the uninstalling program executes the
uninstallation process based on the device driver
specification data by removing entries of the device driver
5 specification data and the input/output interface
specification data that are stored in the device
registration area in association with the device driver
specification data that is stored in the additional
registration area in association with the device
10 specification data for the device targeted for
uninstallation.